

# Illinois Department of Transportation

Division of Highways/District 4  
6035 North Knoxville Avenue/Peoria, Illinois/61614

US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



498860

Peoria Co./LPC ( - Charles M. Jansen Dump)  
Peoria/Jansen's Dump

August 3, 1979

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
4500 S. 6th Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62706  
ATTN: Monte M. Nienkerk  
Central Region Manager, LNPC

Dear Mr. Nienkerk:

Saw this photo/article in Tuesday's paper and am forwarding it on to you for your records in the event that John Taylor of your office did not get a copy of the same.

I would presume that John is more or less temporarily residing up here at this time to comply with the Judge Hunt's order and probably has been collecting the daily news articles, but if not, and you'd like to have copies of those day-by-day activities that appear, I'll be happy to copy the same and periodically forward them to your attention.

Let Mr. Maulding of this office (Centrex 782-7986, or 782-7987 ext. 65 or 79) know if such is desired.

Very truly yours,

*J. E. Harland*  
J. E. Harland  
District Engineer

TEM:mg

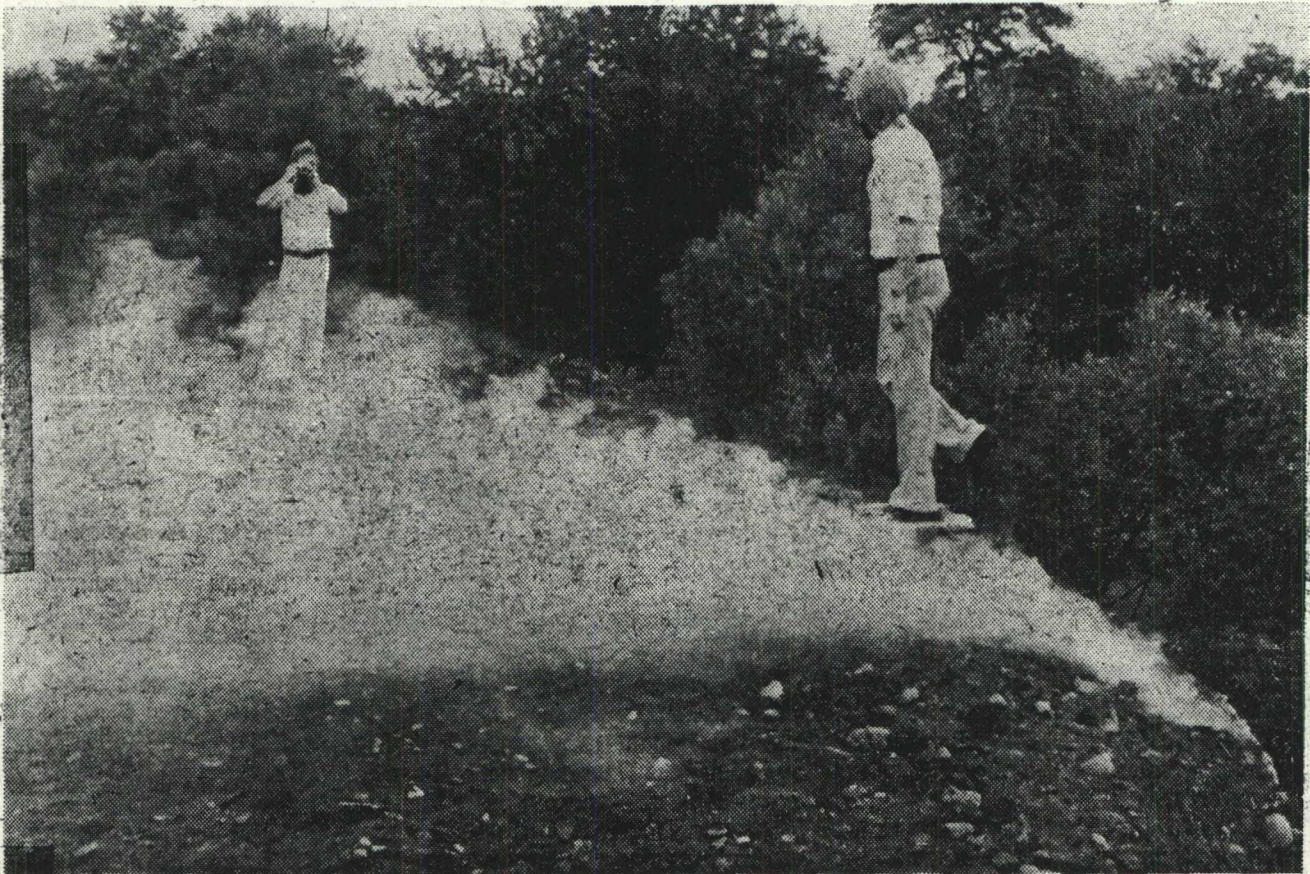
P.S. Also attached is an article from today's (8/3/79) paper.

RECEIVED  
LPC/NPC

AUG 07 1979

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
STATE OF ILLINOIS





**SMOKE POURS** from the earthen fill covering burning garbage in the Janson Dump yesterday as two state investigators look over the site. John Taylor, left, photographs the smoldering fire as Stephen A. Woods, an investigator

with the Illinois attorney general's office, Springfield, looks on. Taylor is an Environmental Protection Agency specialist with the Illinois EPA, Springfield. Photo by Larry Brooks.

## State Investigators Say No Progress Made In Cleanup Of Janson Dump

Investigators for two state agencies said yesterday no progress has been made to clean up the Janson Dump.

Environmental Protection Agency Inspector John Taylor and Stephen Woods, an investigator for the Illinois attorney general, visited the dump yesterday morning.

"The site looks basically like it did last Tuesday," Taylor said.

Circuit Court Judge Robert Hunt has ordered garbage dump operator Charles M. Janson to begin correcting the smoke problem at the dump.

Underground fires in the landfill have been burning for months, often sending billows of smoke throughout Janson's neighborhood.

After an all-day hearing Thursday, Hunt instructed the EPA to give assistance to Janson in cleaning up the mess. He ordered the parties to return this Thursday for a progress report.

But neither Janson nor anyone else was working at the site when Taylor and Woods visited, about 9:30 a.m. Taylor had not in-

formed Janson of his visit. "If he's moved soil, I didn't see any evidence of it," Taylor said. "There's still smoke all over the site."

Taylor plans on returning to the site each day this week to comply with the court's order in offering technical assistance to Janson.

Equipment could be digging up the refuse to uncover the fire, even with the heavy rains of the past week, Taylor said.

"We drove a car back there, so certainly machinery could be operating," he said.

Last month Janson agreed to put out the fires at the dump, cover his garbage and stop operating.

The EPA brought him into court seeking to throw him in jail for violating this agreement.

However, Janson maintains he's followed the agreement in cleaning the site and dumping soil over the fires. He asked that the injunction, restraining him from operating, be lifted.

The 13-acre dump is located on Kickapoo Creek Road, just south of Illinois Route 116.



Recommended approval

ice-retail development at  
N. University.

Oaks Camp in Sommer Park each suit-

# Janson Dump Hearing Continued Until Aug. 24

More expert testimony about snuffing the smoke at the Janson Dump was demanded yesterday by Circuit Court Judge Robert Hunt.

Hunt continued the hearing about the dump until Aug. 24.

That day is after the start of classes at the Pleasant Hill School, just up the hill from the dump.

School Superintendent William Reising said school may have to be closed off if the smoke and odor from the dump force students to stay away.

Angry parents said after the hearing that they'd refuse to send their children to the school.

"If it's a hot, humid day and we have to close the school windows to keep the smoke out, then it may be too hot to have

classes," Reising said after the hearing.

Reising said he'd try to open school, but admitted it would be useless if half the students don't attend or if it's too uncomfortable to learn.

School registration is Aug. 20, with classes beginning two days later.

The Pleasant Hill Board of Education meets Aug. 21 and may consider action.

Hunt deferred the hearing for three weeks while he goes on vacation. He offered to switch the case to another judge, but dump attorney Richard Price objected.

"If the school can't open, we'll try to come back with another judge for an emergency order before Aug. 24," Assistant Attorney General Tim Carr

told the neighbors of the dump.

"You have to be our eyes and ears. You should get information if there is any dumping because dumping on the site is illegal and people would be subject to a fine."

At a June 12 hearing, dump owner Charles M. Janson agreed to halt his operation, cover the refuse and put out the smoldering fire.

The state brought Janson back to court last week, seeking to throw him in jail for failing to put out the fires.

At that time, Hunt ordered Janson and the state Environmental Protection Agency to cooperate in stopping the smoking 13-acre mess on Kickapoo Creek Road, just south of Illinois Route 116.

John Taylor of the EPA told Hunt last week that the way to stop the smoke is to dig up the burning refuse, spread it out, put water on it and rebury it.

Jack Terrell, an investigator for the Peoria Fire Department, gave similar testimony yesterday.

Terrell said he consulted with a Chicago landfill expert, Richard Mulinghouse of Waste Management Inc., who recommended the excavation of the dump.

Since Terrell's testimony was secondhand, Hunt ordered the state to bring Mulinghouse to Peoria to consult with Janson and testify at the Aug. 24 hearing.

"I want this expert to come and inspect the dump and make recommendations to Janson," Hunt said. "Let him (Janson) make a sincere effort to get the fires out."

Hunt said he hopes work as

continued on the fire problem during the next three weeks, and asked for a progress report at the Aug. 24 hearing.

"The state is not in the business of running private landfills," Carr said later. "But in this case the burden has been dumped on us to handle this problem."

Terrell testified he went to the site Wednesday and found combustion continuing far underground.

At the surface he picked up and brought into court a piece of wood and furniture stuffing which he said was smoking and ready to burn.

"This is not a free burning fire; it could burn in a smoldering state for years," Terrell said.

Janson's solution — to cover the smoking area with dirt and

water to cut oxygen from the fire — would not work, Terrell said, because some of the material buried underground produces its own oxygen.

Limestone Volunteer Fire Chief Ed Wright disagreed with Terrell, saying previous fires have been extinguished with dirt and water. In fact, he recommended that Janson use that process at his dump.

When he visited the dump this week, Janson had excavated a hole four-feet deep and eight-feet in diameter to get at an underground fire.

Wright admitted the vapors dissipated after oxygen got to the hot area.

Although Wright said his department has been called to the dump numerous times, he wouldn't say the rising vapor was smoke. It could be steam, he said.

The hundreds of gallons of water that he's applied to the dump this week have increased the vapors, Wright said.

"Underground there is decaying material that creates a tremendous amount of heat when it is oxidizing," he said. "The only way I know of handling it is to seal it so oxygen can't get to it."

Both Wright and Terrell admitted that they had little personal contact with extinguishing underground landfill fires.

## Three Persons Injured On Grand View Drive

Three persons were injured, at least one of them seriously, in a one-vehicle crash in the 4100 block of Grand View Drive early this morning.

Authorities said the trio's auto was apparently traveling down Grand View Drive east when it left the road and slammed head-on into a tree.

Peoria Park District Police Officer Dennis Gardner said he was traveling on Grand View Drive at the time of the collision and was close enough to the scene to hear the sounds of impact.

Arriving seconds later, Gardner said he found one of the victims lying outside the car yards from the wreckage, another lying on the car, and the third, the driver, pinned in the vehicle.

Authorities said the driver carried identification bearing the name of Randy Wieland, 16. The identification card listed no address.

The identity of the other victims, both males, was not immediately available. They appeared, police reported, to be injured less seriously than the driver.

Fire rescue personnel were called to the crash scene and tried to remove the victims from the wreckage.

## Illinois Lottery

CHICAGO (AP) — Here are the winning numbers of the Big Pay Day and Treasure Hunt games drawn yesterday in the Illinois lottery.

### BIG PAY DAY

Numbers: 0943-2095

### TREASURE HUNT

Numbers: 43 47 12 46 35 67

# LANOOD'S

## MEYLANDRA - PEORIA

307-1183

674-2700

\$4.00  
1 OFF

LARGE OR  
FAMILY SIZE  
PIZZA



"I think it's going to be possible someday, but I don't know when," said Bernhard.

DR. WILLIAM F. BERNHARD, professor of surgery at Harvard Medical School,

the heart pump he designed,

P.J.S.B.A-2 9/15/79

## Cost Of Dousing Janson Dump Fire Set At \$50,000

A suburban Chicago landfill firm has estimated it will cost about \$50,000 to extinguish the underground fires burning at Janson Dump.

Executives of John Sexton Contractors Co. of Oak Brook said during an informal hearing yesterday that borings should be taken from 13 hotspots at the dump to determine how deep and extensive the fire is.

Where fire is found, primarily along a ledge running along the Kickapoo Creek, the garbage and burning demolition

debris must be dug out, spread around and wet down.

Clay will then have to be brought in to rebuild the ledge to prevent contamination from seeping into the creek.

"It'll cost more to put the fire out and bring in the clay than can be gained from the property," Circuit Court Judge Robert Hunt quoted the officials as saying.

It could take three months for the digging process to be completed, according to Sexton

executive vice president Arthur Daniels.

Covering the smoking areas or flooding them will not put the fires out, Hunt said the experts reported.

Hunt has scheduled a public hearing Friday to consider what type of actions to be taken against dump operator Charles Janson.

His attorney, Richard Price, said he will decide by Monday whether to comply with Daniel's recommendations.

Hunt had ordered the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and the attorney general's office, which are prosecuting Janson, to bring in an expert to testify about how the fires should be extinguished on the 13-acre dump site at Kickapoo Creek Road and Illinois Route 116.

"It appears that the site has not been operated in accordance with the rules and regulations for the Illinois EPA," said Daniels. "No real plan of operation was discernable to us and the site was in general disorder."

Daniels said his inspection indicated a number of scatter fires underground producing

vapor, steam, smoke or odor.

Neighbors around the landfill have been irate, complaining about the dump's smoke disturbing their home lives.

"When fires or hot spots are found at greater depths they may travel without limitation throughout the fill," Daniels said.

Daniels suggested all hot material be excavated, spread and recompacted then extinguished.

"THE JANSON site solution is complicated by the fact that, although a plan exists, it was apparently not followed," he said. "We believe this aspect (the borings) of the corrective process to be one of the most, if

not the most, important aspect of the problem solution."

It's estimated about 40 borings, as much as 20 feet deep, will have to be made at the 13 hot spots around the site.

Cost of this preliminary procedure is estimated at \$8,175.

### Taylor Road Open To Wildlife Park

Wildlife Prairie Park officials report that the park, located near Edwards, can once again be visited by using Taylor Road off Illinois Route 116. Taylor Road has been undergoing repair work.

## Diapers At Crash Scene Lead To Tot's Rescue

RIPLEY, Tenn. (AP) — Diapers and a hunch led to the discovery of an injured 15-month-old girl nearly 60 feet from the scene of a collision involving her mother's car, police said.

State Trooper Billy Williams said yesterday that the baby, Lacreia Yanders, was found after two emergency medical technicians returned to the scene of the wreck after taking the child's mother and 4-year-old brother to a hospital.

The boy, Michael Yanders, died when the car driven by the

made," Pike said after the baby was found beneath a car in a junkyard 60 feet from the road.

Pike said the baby could have been thrown through a window or the broken rear windshield of the car.

The child was in serious condition yesterday at Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center in Memphis.

## State OKs Liquor License For Dunlap Town

DUNLAP — The Illinois Liquor Control Commission has reversed a decision of the Village Board to deny the extension of a liquor license of the town's only tavern.

The Village Board voted in April to stop all liquor sales in the town. At that time, James Traphagen, owner of Hogan's Place, was seeking to extend his license.

In May, Traphagen filed a lawsuit against the village, seeking an injunction to prevent the

town from closing the bar. He claimed not received a notice of the Village Boarding at which the abolition of liquor discussed.

Traphagen was notified of the commission decision yesterday by his attorney, Ison of Champaign.

Under the decision, three more licenses are available in the town, said.

September 1977.

"The grant was approved but we waited almost a year to actually get the money. We've got another year coming to complete the modernization project," C said yesterday.

The additional grant came when Gianesi convinced HUD engineers not just storm windows needed. He convinced that the windows they needed to be changed.

"One guy in Springfield asked me how I managed to get so much money in so short time. He said I was a good talker."

"I told him that plain to see the results here. There's never anything done to the place since they were in 1953," Gianesi said.

"SLEEP IS OUR MIDDLE NAME"

9/15/79  
P.S.B.